REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 7-11, 14, 15 and 20 are pending. Claim 20 has been amended. Claims 21-26 are added. No new matter has been added.

Claim 20 has been amended to provide antecedent basis for "a plurality of users."

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 7-11, 14, 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,300,947 to Kanevsky. As demonstrated below, Kanevsky fails to disclose at least the step recited in independent claim 7 of "transmitting data representative of the usage to the user by way of a monitor window when the user is connected to any other website." In contrast to transmitting website usage information to a user, as in the present invention, Kanevsky discloses determining which portion of a website is to be displayed on a user's screen, where the determination is made by applying website usage information.

The Examiner contends that Kanevsky discloses a method for providing usage information of a first website designated by a user including receiving from the user a designation of the first website as a monitored website, monitoring usage of the monitored website, and transmitting data representative of the usage to the user by way of a monitor window.

Applicants submit that Kanevsky discloses a web page adaptation system which provides methods that organize the web page's material so as to be viewed on the user's monitor (display device). Kanevsky discloses that a "key impetus" for his invention is that a client machine's display "may include different sized, shaped and configured monitors (displays)." (Kanevsky, column 5, lines 57-60.) Kanevsky discloses a semantic interpreter module which automatically decides how to fold or expand the content of web pages depending on the size of a screen or window. (Kanevsky, column 2, lines 45-49.)

When the web page is to be displayed on a small screen, Kanevsky discloses creating a hierarchy and prioritizing the order in which links on the web page are displayed. Kanevsky discloses that priority decisions may be obtained from information previously enrolled by, or extracted from, a particular user or all users. This information includes user profiles, histories of visits to particular web sites by users, statistics of visits to particular web sites depending on user profiles, and is stored in a user database 803. (Kanevsky, column 11, lines 25-50.) Kanevsky applies this information to determine which object on a web page is displayed on a user's screen, when not all of a web page's objects can fit on the screen at the same time.

Applicants' claim 7 recites the steps of "receiving, from the user, a designation of the first web site as a monitored website, wherein the monitored website is any web site on a communication network; monitoring usage of the monitored website; and transmitting data representative of the usage to the user by way of a monitor window when the user is connected to any other website on the communication network." In contrast to a user designating a "web site as a monitored website," Kanevsky discloses that a user merely selects a website to be displayed on the user's screen. Kanevsky discloses a system for adapting the selected website to fit monitors (displays) of various sizes.

Further, Kanevsky does not disclose "transmitting data representative of the usage to the user." Rather, Kanevsky displays web page objects on a user's screen. Kanevsky discloses that the particular object (a portion of the website) to be displayed is determined by applying information stored in a user database 803, where the information can include user profiles, histories of visits to particular web sites by users, and statistics of visits to particular web sites depending on user profiles. However, Kanevsky does not disclose transmitting the usage information stored on database 803 to the user.

Additionally, Kanevsky does not disclose "a monitor window" for displaying usage information "when the user is connected to any other website on the communication network." Rather, Kanevsky discloses a method that determines which object on a web page is displayed on a user's screen when the user is connected to that web page.

Applicants submit that Kanevsky does not disclose each and every feature recited in claim 7. Therefore, Kanevsky does not anticipate claim 7. Claims 8-11 and 20 depend from claim 7, and Applicants submit that claims 8-11 and 20 are patentable over Kanevsky for at least the same reasons set forth above for claim 7.

Independent claims 14 and 15 are patentable over Kanevsky for at least the same reasons set forth above for claim 7. Applicants request withdrawal and reconsideration of this rejection.

Added Claims 21-26

Claims 21-26 have been added. Independent claim 21 is directed to a method for monitoring a first website designated by a first user and recites the steps of "receiving, from the first user, a designation of the first web site as a monitored website, wherein the monitored website is any web site on a communication network; monitoring at least one other user's usage of the monitored website; and transmitting data representative of the at least one other user's usage to the first user by way of a monitor window when the first user is connected to any other website on the communication network." By reciting "a first user" and "at least one other user's usage," claim 21 distinguishes over the Kanevsky reference in that the invention of claim 21 displays to one user the usage information of at least one other different user. Claims 22-26 depend from claim 21, and Applicants submit that claims 22-26 are patentable over Kanevsky for at least the same reasons as claim 21.

CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated February 26, 2004, and the Advisory Action dated July 23, 2004 have been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 7-11, 14, 15 and 20 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.
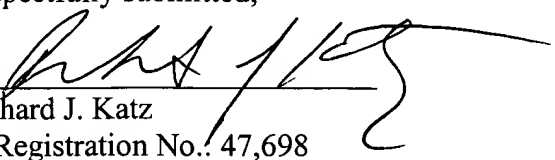
If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: August 26, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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